

HomestayNews

June 2024 • Time to Say Good bye



In a few short weeks, many students will be completing their study abroad experience in Delta and heading home. Some are staying for summer but the majority of students are finishing their time here at the end of the month. A nice good-bye keepsake (inexpensive or free) is always lovely. A goodbye meal together (potlucks have been common in the past) is another great gesture. Homestay Coordinators always have wonderful ideas and suggestions if you are unsure. We also enjoy sharing ideas on our Facebook page. If you like to do something that you think others can enjoy doing, please do not hesitate to share it with us. You have been such a huge part of their experience here in Canada. Thank you very much for all the effort and patience you put into the experience.

Cell Phone Cancellation

Please ensure your student has cancelled their cellphone pay as you go plans before they head home. Ensure your name is not attached to it anywhere as you do not need to receive calls or letters if they have forgotten to deactivate the phone service. If they set it up as suggested, the data / minutes should run out and then the number no longer works. Students heading home at the end of June should not have contracted cell phone plans.

Conversation Starter Topic:

What is the scariest movie you have ever seen?

Summer ELL Students and September Students

The next set of students to arrive are coming for summer programming. After that, the larger group of new students are coming at the end of August to start their study abroad experience in Delta in September.

Keep an eye on your email, including the Junk folder as they may be reaching out to connect. Please reply, even if it is just to set a date to meet each other online.

Students are typically looking forward to this experience and are very invested in getting to know you online. Unreturned emails can come across the wrong way and cause them (and their parents) to be offended.

If you are trying to connect with your new student and not hearing back, please reach out to your Homestay Coordinator. They are hard at work finishing off placements in June but can help get you and your new student connect online.

Vancouver Whitecaps Tickets This Summer / Fall



Here are a few more dates and seats that are available for purchase from one of our homestay parents.

Aug 3	Sat	7:00 PM	LEAGUE CUP v Tijuana (\$40/tix)
Aug 24	Sat	4:30 PM	Los Angeles Football Club (\$30/tix)
Sept 7	Sat	7:30 PM	FC Dallas (\$30/tix)
Sept 28	Sat	7:30 PM	Portland Timbers (\$30/tix)
Oct 2	Wed	7:30 PM	Seattle Sounders FC (\$45/tix)
Oct 5	Sat	4:30 PM	Minnesota United FC (\$30/tix)

If you are interested, please email [Brent](#) and he will put you in touch with the holder of the tickets. Their availability may change.

Travel

Contact [Brent](#) so we can get the documentation and permission in place before your trip!

Please let us know early about travel plans. Driving to the US requires an [ESTA](#) and [I-94 form](#). Not all nationalities can visit the US freely. We will prepare a travel letter to the US, even for day trips, with your international student.

If you are planning a day trip, please let us know. The same documentation is not required if staying in Canada, but because Karen Symonds, the Program Director, is the custodian for the majority of our students, we do need to know where they are travelling to outside of the Lower Mainland. It allows us to stay in the loop and be ready to assist if the need arises.

Packing Up

Encouraging your student to get prepared and start packing up a few days ahead of their departure is a great idea.

It allows them to see if they need to get another suitcase or donate some clothing or other items.

It allows you to get a good look at the bedroom to ensure no damage has occurred during your student's time there.

If there is damage present, please calmly speak to your student about it, take pictures of it, and send it to [Brent](#) right away.

All school textbooks and library books will need to be returned as well. Please remind your student to do so.

Click Here!

Health Related Payments

Please confirm with your student if they have any reimbursement claims or health claims they are still waiting on. It will be good for us to know as well, so please share any details they provide with your Homestay Coordinator.

If they requested a cheque as the form of reimbursement, we will work with them to get that changed. Students heading home at the end of June will need to understand that a cheque being mailed to them will not work or be a timely solution.

Homestay Referral Gift Card

We are still actively recruiting more homestay families. If you refer a family who completes the application process and is able to host a student, you will receive a \$100 referral incentive gift card.

A Special Thank You

I wanted to share a special thank you to two of our homestay parents for being amazing. I'll call them J & T to let them remain anonymous.

J & T's student felt sick the other week, but nothing major, and they took him to see a doctor. They waited with him the entire time at Delta Hospital. The doctor took an ultrasound just to be sure everything was ok.

The result of that ultrasound was a ride to Surrey Memorial Hospital for an appendectomy. They were by his side through the entire process. Our staff joined them and relieved them for a few hours so they could go have a quick date night White Spot dinner!

The evening wrapped up around 2:00AM when their student was discharged and they all went home. Thank you J & T for showing that being a host parent truly means caring for your international student like you would want your own child to be cared for.

Homestay Handbook

We have uploaded a working version of our [Homestay Handbook](#). We are continuing to make adjustments and edits to it. Please review it on our website and reach out to your Homestay Coordinator if you have any questions.

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Our dedicated team of Homestay Coordinators are here to support you. Feel free to reach out to them.

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